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09/975,264

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Tsukasa Saito

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EXAMINER

HAMILTON, MONPLAISIR G

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2135

7

DATE MAILED: 03/26/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/975,264

Applicant(s)

SAITO ET AL.

Examiner

Monplaisir G Hamilton

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 October 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 02 January 2002 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- 1) ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - 2) ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 3) ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 6.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

**DETAILED ACTION**

1. Claims 1-13 are pending.

***Priority***

2. Acknowledgment is made of applicant's claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d).

***Information Disclosure Statement***

3. The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on 10/24/01, Paper No. 6 is in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97. Accordingly, the information disclosure statement is being considered by the examiner.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 7-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by US 5,895,450 issued to Sloo, herein referred to as Sloo.

Referring to Claim 7:

Sloo discloses an information processing apparatus for providing sent-out information via a network, comprising:

information-sending accepting process means for accepting said sent-out information provided from said information processing apparatus for sending out said information, and for causing another information processing apparatus to make an access to said sent-out information via said network (col 4, lines 10-60);

individual-identification-information presenting process means for processing information for identifying a sending-party of said information (col 5, lines 3-30);

means for storing provider access policy information that is information for permitting said another information processing apparatus to make said access to said sent-out information (col 8, lines 35-60); and sent-out content managing record means for recording said accepted sent-out

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information and said sending-party identification information in a state of being caused to be related to each other (col 8, lines 5-65).

Referring to Claim 8:

Sloo discloses the limitations of Claim 7 above. Sloo further discloses said sent-out information is any one of text data, image data, motion-picture data, and voice data; and said information-sending accepting process means accepts said sent-out information and uploads said sent-out information onto an electronic bulletin board or a home page (col 5, lines 55-65).

Referring to Claim 9:

Sloo discloses a deliberation support processing apparatus for deliberating a dispute resolution in a case of resolving a dispute occurred by information sent out from an information processing apparatus, comprising:

deliberation accepting process means for receiving sent-out contents becoming a target of said deliberation, identification information on a sending-party, and identification information on a deliberation-requesting-party, and for accepting a deliberation request to be stored into deliberation-managing-information storing means (col 4, lines 35-65);

inquiry requesting process means for processing information about which an inquiry is to be made of immediately-concerned-parties of said dispute for said deliberation; deliberation result informing process means for transmitting a deliberation result stored in said deliberation-managing-information storing means and personal information on said

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sending-party to an information processing apparatus in which said deliberation request is made (col 5, lines 35-65; col 8, line 40-col 9, line 15);

and personal information presentation requesting process means for accepting said result of said requested deliberation, for transmitting, to an individual-identification-information managing process apparatus, said individual-identification-information stored in said deliberation-managing-information-storing-means, and for requesting presentation of said personal information on said sending-party (col 16, lines 30-65).

Referring to Claim 10:

Sloo discloses the limitations of Claim 9 above. Sloo further discloses said deliberation support processing apparatus having record means for storing, as deliberation-supporting access policy information, a condition for permitting said acceptance of said deliberation request at said deliberation accepting process means (col 10, line 50- col 11, line 20).

Referring to Claims 11 and 13:

Sloo discloses An information processing apparatus for sending out information, comprising: personal information registration requesting process means for requesting an individual-identification-information managing process apparatus to register personal information on a sending-party sending out said information (col 4, lines 35-60); information-sending process means for accepting said information on sent-out contents, and for transmitting said sent-out information to a sent-out information browsing apparatus for causing another information processing apparatus to make an access to said sent-out information (col 5,

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lines 3-30, 50-65); and access requesting process means for acquiring sending-party-identification-information for making an access from said individual-identification-information managing process apparatus to said sent-out information browsing apparatus, and for transmitting said information on sent-out contents and said sending party-identification-information to said sent-out information browsing apparatus (col 8, lines 30-60).

Referring to Claim 12:

Sloo discloses an individual-identification-information managing process apparatus, comprising: personal information registering process means for accepting a registration request for personal information from an information processing apparatus sending out information, and for registering said personal information into personal information recording means for storing said personal information (col 4, line 45-col 5, line 20); individual-identification-information issuing process means for accepting an issuing request from a user registering said personal information, and for issuing individual-identification-information on said user (col 5, lines 3-45); inquiring process means for receiving inquiry contents and said individual-identification-information from a deliberation support processing apparatus, and for transmitting said inquiry contents to said user based on said individual-identification-information (col 8, line 45-col 9, line 15); and personal information presenting process means for transmitting, to said deliberation support processing apparatus, said personal information on said information sending-party identified by said individual-identification-information received from said deliberation support processing apparatus (col 16, lines 45-65).

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US 5,895,450 issued to Sloo, herein referred to as Sloo in view of US 5,745,866 issued to Rosen, herein referred to as Rosen.

Referring to Claim 1:

Sloo discloses a personal information managing method in a case of resolving a dispute occurred by information sent out from an information processing apparatus, comprising the steps of: accepting an input for designating sent-out contents capable of being browsed on a provider-side processing apparatus connected via a network (col 3, lines 5-20); receiving [ticket] information for identifying a sending-party sending out said designated sent-out contents, from said provider-side processing apparatus (col 5, lines 10-20); transmitting said sent-out contents and said [ticket] information from a deliberation-requesting-party-side processing apparatus to a deliberation support processing apparatus to request a deliberation about said sent-out contents (col 7, lines 25-40; col 8, lines 15-60); receiving said sent-out contents and said [ticket] information from said deliberation-requesting-party-side processing apparatus to store said sent-out contents and said [ticket] information into a deliberation managing database in said deliberation support processing apparatus (col 8, lines 30-60), said sent-out contents becoming a



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target of said deliberation (col 8, lines 35-55); accepting an input of a deliberation result of said requested deliberation to store said deliberation result into said deliberation managing database (col 8, lines 50-60); transmitting said [ticket] information stored in said deliberation managing database, from said deliberation support processing apparatus to a ticket management processing apparatus (col 9, lines 5-20); requesting presentation of personal information on said sending-party (col 5, lines 10-45); receiving said [ticket] information from said deliberation support processing apparatus (col 5, lines 10-20); transmitting said personal information on said sending-party identified by said [ticket] information, from said [ticket] management processing apparatus to said deliberation support processing apparatus; and transmitting said deliberation result stored in said deliberation managing database and said personal information on said sending-party received from said ticket management processing apparatus, from said deliberation support processing apparatus to said deliberation-requesting-party-side processing apparatus (col 9, lines 5-15).

Sloo does not explicitly disclose the use of "a ticket management apparatus".

Rosen discloses the claimed ticket management apparatus (col 3, lines 50-65).

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the teachings of Sloo such that the unique email is replaced with a ticket. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because it would enable the participants of the dispute to remain anonymous (col 1, lines 55-60).

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Referring to Claim 2:

Sloo in view of Rosen discloses the limitation of Claim 1 above. Sloo further discloses accepting an input of inquiry contents toward said sending-party to store said inquiry contents into said deliberation managing database (col 5, lines 55-65); transmitting said inquiry contents and said ticket information stored in said deliberation managing database, from said deliberation support-processing apparatus to said ticket management processing apparatus (col 4, lines 5-60); receiving said inquiry contents and said ticket information from said deliberation support processing apparatus (col 4, lines 15-35); making reference to a mail address indicated by a contact address included in said personal information identified by said ticket information; and transmitting said inquiry contents from said ticket management processing apparatus to said mail address (col 9, lines 5-15).

Referring to Claim 3:

Sloo in view of Rosen discloses the limitation of Claim 1 above. Sloo further discloses receiving said deliberation result and said ticket information stored in said deliberation managing database, from said deliberation support processing apparatus; and transmitting said personal information on said sending-party identified by said ticket information, from said ticket management processing apparatus to said deliberation support processing apparatus, when said deliberation result indicates that said sent-out contents include an illegality (col 16, lines 30-45).

Referring to Claim 4:

Sloo in view of Rosen discloses the limitation of Claim 2 above. Sloo further discloses receiving said deliberation result and said ticket information stored in said deliberation managing database, from said deliberation support processing apparatus; and transmitting said personal information on said sending-party identified by said ticket information, from said ticket management-processing apparatus to said deliberation support processing apparatus, when said deliberation result indicates that said sent-out contents include an illegality (col 16, lines 30-60).

Referring to Claims 5 and 6:

A personal information managing system in a case of resolving a dispute occurred by information sent out from an information processing apparatus, comprising:

a deliberation requesting process unit for accepting an input for designating sent-out contents capable of being browsed on a provider-side processing apparatus connected via a network, for receiving [ticket] information for identifying a sending-party sending out said designated sent-out contents, from said provider side processing apparatus, and for transmitting said sent-out contents and said [ticket] information from a deliberation-requesting-party-side processing apparatus to a deliberation support processing apparatus to request a deliberation about said sent-out contents (col 8, lines 15-60; col 10, line 45-col 11, line 20; col 16, lines 30-65);

a deliberation accepting process unit for receiving said sent-out contents and said [ticket] information from said deliberation-requesting-party-side processing apparatus to store said sent-out contents and said ticket information into a deliberation managing database in said

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deliberation support processing apparatus, said sent-out contents becoming a target of said deliberation (col 4, lines 1-60; col 5, lines 3-50);

a personal information presentation requesting process unit for accepting an input of a deliberation result of said requested deliberation to store said deliberation result into said deliberation managing database, for transmitting said [ticket] information stored in said ~~deliberation managing database; from said deliberation support processing apparatus to a [ticket]~~ management processing apparatus, and for requesting presentation of personal information on said sending-party (col 4, lines 10-35; col 5, lines 35-65);

a personal information presenting process unit for receiving said [ticket] information from said deliberation support processing apparatus, and for transmitting said personal information on said sending party identified by said [ticket] information, from said [ticket] management processing apparatus to said deliberation support processing apparatus; and a deliberation result informing process unit for transmitting said deliberation result stored in said deliberation managing database and said personal information on said sending-party received from said [ticket] management processing apparatus, from said deliberation support processing apparatus to said deliberation-requesting-party-side processing apparatus (col 8, line 50-col 9, line 15).

Sloo does not explicitly disclose the use of "a ticket management apparatus".

Rosen discloses the claimed ticket management apparatus (col 3, lines 50-65).

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the teachings of Sloo such that the unique email is replaced with a

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ticket. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because it would enable the participants of the dispute to remain anonymous (col 1, lines 55-60).

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*Conclusion*

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Monplaisir G Hamilton whose telephone number is (703) 305-5116. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday (8:00 am - 4:30 pm).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kim Y Vu can be reached on (703) 305-4393. The fax-phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Monplaisir Hamilton



EXAMINER'S SIGNATURE  
DATE: 11/10/09